Statement-II

Afforestation done under social forestry and Farm Forestry in Bihar

S. No.	Year	Area in Hectares*
1.	1984-85**	48067
2.	1985-86	52372
3.	1986-87	79526
4.	1987-88	84057 (upto 15-10-87

*Nationally compu ed on the basis of 2,000 trees per hectare. Excludes area under production forestry done in forest lands.

**January, 1985 to March. 1985 figure separately not maintained.

Report of the Committee on the Ansal Bhawan Fire

*46. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the one-man committee appointed by the Delhi Administration to inquire into the circumstances leading to the fire in Ansal Bhawan in June last has submitted its report to Government; and

(b) if so, what are its findings?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) The Report of the Magisterial Inquiry into the fire incident on 29th June, 1987 in Ansal Bhawan, New Delhi has been received by the Delhi Administration on the 23rd October, 1987 and the same is presently under their examination.

2. According to the Inquiry Report, the cause of the fire was a short-circuit in a flat on the 5th floor in Ansal Bhawan. The fire spread to the other floors mainly through the cable-shafts, since these were not sealed at each floor. The Report also points out about the absence of adequate inbuilt fire-fighting arrangements in the buildings.

Bilateral Trade between India and USSR

*47. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken by India and the USSR to step up and diversify bilateral trade; and

(b) what has been the position of exports and imports by the two countries during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b) A number of steps have been initiated to step up and diversify the structure of Indo-Soviet bilateral trade. It is planned to raise it by 2.5 times in the next five years. Some of the important steps taken to achieve these objectives are :

(1) Increase in import of some of the existing items such as crude oil, newsprint and non-ferrous metals from USSR, addition of several new machinery and equipment items, and diversification by adding new items such as synthetic ammonia, raw hides, petro-chemicals, etc., in the trade basket. Some more new items are proposed to be added in the coming year.

(2) Market surveys for increasing the imports from the USSR are being conducted by the Confederation of Engineering Industry (CEI), Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) and by Tata Economic Consultancy Services on behalf of India-USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry.